

A Multicultural Twist at Weston

By Miduran Murugathasan, grade 11 IB

On Wednesday, May 25, 2016, People from near and far came to the annual 11th "A Taste of Weston IB with a Multicultural Twist" at Weston C.I. There were many people came that night such as currents students, friends and families, retired and current Weston staff. Most importantly, the graduates and the alumni came out and showed their support to the IB program at Weston.

This event is avery important to the school because it is the time where everyone celebrates the grade 12 IBs' success in completing the Diploma Program and wishing them good luck in their academic careers.

The school cafeteria was turned into a magnificent multicultural fiesta. Everyone was dressed in their beautiful and colourful cultural attire. During the event, the student committee had set up several games such as family feud, match the flag, a multicultural scavenger hunt and many more. In addition, there was a photo booth which was a success because everyone wanted to cherish the moment. At the south end of the cafeteria, there was a variety of multicultural dishes and delicious desserts.

Later, there was a fabulous fashion show held by the students which show cased their wonderful fashions from around the world. Finally, at the second half of the night, students performed their marvelous talents in the talent show. The talent show included singing, dancing, and much more. In addition, the profits raised from the night are directed towards IB scholarships, the annual Tamakwa trip, and other student excursions, and material for enriched curriculum activities.

Grade 12 IB graduate, Harshita Annapareddy commented, "It's definitely very different experiencing multi night as a senior. Since on one hand you're relieved that you're done IB exams, but on the other hand, you know that these moments will be your last memories at Weston and you want to make the most of the time you have left."

Grade 10 Pre-IB program, Prachi Dalal said, "Ok well the talent show and food buffet was very well organized. I thought the group pictures at the map were one of the best parts; they really captured the concept of multiculturalism at Weston. The timing was perfect too it did not end too early or too late. It was set up very nicely as well and I like all the tables and stuff too."

Grade 9 Pre-IB program, Usman Sheikh stated, "Weston's 2016 IB Multicultural Night was a great experience for me and I'm pretty sure my fellow peers too. It was a memorable night where you spent it with people who accept you for who you are."

Furthermore, the overall ambiance of the night exactly meets the expectations when you think of multicultural night. The cafeteria was filled an amazing smell of fresh food. The night in general is the staple of Weston, where it brings people from all ages together to have swell time.



Sports at Weston CI

By Lilo Noort

Without a doubt, sports teams bring a school together. The entire school mindlessly supports their school's team and are with them through thick and thin. The 2015-2016 school year was an astonishing one for sports at Weston. Junior and senior boys and girls did exceptionally well on every team they played on. As usual Weston fought hard and had a stellar athletic season.

Girls Rugby

This year fall season of rugby was extremely successful.

The girls' team fought tirelessly in their tournament and made it to the championship game in the fall tournament. Unfortunately, the girls lost this match and did not move on to the city championship.



Senior Boys Rugby

The senior boys played a great season, winning two games and losing three. Sadly, this year the boys did not make it to the playoffs, but with a large portion of the team playing club this year, they hope to take home the gold next year.

Girls Basketball

The girls' basketball team played a remarkable season, making it to the semi-finals. The girls give their all in every game they play and always leave their audience on the edge of their seats. The team is sure that next year they are going to work even harder and hopefully make it all the way to cities.



Boys indoor Soccer

Indoor soccer is a fairly new sport at Weston but has shocked the school by its great success. The team is made up of junior and senior boys, and they never fail to make other schools run for their money.

The varsity boy's indoor soccer destroyed their competition, have an amazing 12 wins, 2 ties, and 2 losses the boys won both north and west region championship games, winning the school a banner to put in the gymnasium. Without a doubt, the whole school was ecstatic and surprised the boys made it as far as they did. The boys fought tirelessly and made everyone in the school immensely proud of their school, and its stellar indoor soccer team.

**Senior Boys Volleyball**

The senior boys' volleyball team played a tough season with two wins and three losses. However, the Weston boys kept fighting and eventually made it to a quarterfinals match. Unfortunately, they did not win. The boys played extremely hard and worked as a team to get through everything. Without a doubt, the whole school is certain that the boys will do much better next season, and are ecstatic to see games in the future.

Girls Volleyball

Weston's spectacular girls played an amazing season of volleyball. The girls won six games and lost four of their games, advancing to the city championships. The girls fought hard and played a difficult set of games in the championships. Sadly, the girls lost in the cities but ended up in second place overall. The varsity girls never fail to impress in any of their games. Although they didn't take home the gold this year, they are determined to go all the way next season.



Indoor Cricket

The cricket team at Weston has always been amazing! For a number of years, the team was one of the best in the region. This year the indoor cricket team made it all the way to the playoffs, but sadly lost in the first round. The team left a legacy at Weston when in 2014 they dominated their competition with a team made up of mostly rookies. The team hopes to continue this legacy when they come back strong next season.

**Boys Baseball**

The boy's baseball team also had an amazing season. The boys won three games, lost two and won all of their playoff games! The Weston boys ended up winning the Tier 2 Championship. Their stellar work was rewarded with another banner for the gymnasium and endless bragging rights for the school and team. With how well these boys did this year, it wouldn't be a surprise if one day some of them are playing for the Blue Jays!

**Girls Slow Pitch**

Varsity girls' slow pitch always plays a great season, and never fails to impress. The team always does everything they can to win and when watching a game, you can tell how much the girls love playing their sport. This year the girls won three games and lost three, landing them in fourth place in the west region.

Junior Boys Soccer

The junior boys had a killer soccer season, winning two games and losing two in their regular season, giving them an overall ranking of third in the northwest region! After their regular season concluded, the boys move on to the quarterfinals, playing Richview C.I. The boys were neck and neck and unfortunately lost this game in penalties. All the junior boys show on and off the field how passionate they are about their sport. The juniors always play amazing games and contribute greatly to Weston's school spirit.

Senior Boys Soccer

The boy's senior soccer team never fails to play a stellar season. Every game they've ever played has been jam packed with excitement, and the school adores home games when we can see our boys play tirelessly for the school.

Weston's senior boys dominated the soccer field, as usual. This year the senior boys won ten games, tied 2 and lost six games. Unfortunately, the boys lost in the West Region finals but powered through and made it to the cities. Weston's favorite boys won the semi-final game in the city championships, but sadly lost in the finals.



Girls Soccer

The girls' soccer team played a memorable season. The girls were faced with many setbacks, but still managed to push through and play a great season. With one win one tie and four losses, Weston had a tough season but never gave up. On and off the field the girls held their heads up high and made sure everyone knew just how hard they worked. The girls are determined to come back strong next season and take home the gold.



Sports at Weston, without a doubt bring the entire school together. Without them the school year would not feel right. Our Weston athletes put their all into every game they play and exhibit a passion for their sport.

However, Weston's spectacular athletes would not be able to do anything without their amazing coaches, teachers and teammates.

On behalf of my fellow Weston students and athletes, I want to thank all our coaches and teachers for taking the time to help us improve in our sport. Without you none of our beloved teams would be possible. You make all our athletic endeavors possible, we would not be able to do what we do without you. Here is to a great athletic season, and here is to every athlete, coach and student alike.

Keep playing hard Weston.

You're Invited
to celebrate the
160th Anniversary
of
Weston Collegiate Institute
October 2017

More details to follow: alumni.westonci.ca

Want to get involved?
Please email info@westonalumni.com

Decade News

1950s/1960s

By Doug Musselwhite

A group of Weston grads and a few of their spouses got together for lunch at the Crossroads Restaurant in Elmira on October 20, 2015. If you would like to join us for this annual event you can email Gary & Bonnie Holloway at gbholloway@bell.net.



Back Row: Bob Dennison & Doug Musselwhite

2nd Row: Charlie Corry, Linda (Musselwhite) Long, Sylvia (Papa) Danzie, Marg (Gale) Wightman, Alex Durrant, Bonnie (Lamont) Holloway & Gary Holloway

Front Row: George Grainger, Carol (Ambler) Coon, Helen (Bowman) Grainger, Doreen (Boden) Dennison, June (Anderson) Musselwhite, Cathie (McKay) Durrant, Janice Rouse, Jim Rouse & Ethel (Mertens) Corry.

Tributes

James Cecil Bradford

On April 9, 2016, the Weston Collegiate Alumni Foundation (WCAF) lost one of its unsung, but very distinguished World War II Veterans with the passing of flying Officer James Cecil Bradford at the age of 92.

James was the identical twin brother of Robert William Bradford C.M. who received the Order of Canada in 1989 for his aviation paintings and his work in preserving Canada's proud aviation history. Both James and Robert played vital roles in the training of bomber crews during the final years of World War II by flying Navigators, Bomb Aimers, Wireless Operators etc. on a multitude of training missions. While the task of training bomber crews may sound somewhat mundane, one should not overlook the accomplishments of Allied Bomber attacks such as the one featured in the movie, the Dam Busters.

The Bradford twins grew up in the Fairbank area of the former York Township where they attended Briar Hill Public School during the early days of the "Hungry Thirties". Subsequently, they enrolled in the Vocational Program at Weston Collegiate and Vocational School (WCVS) in September 1938. They remained at the School until 1940 at which time financial hardship at home caused them to enter the workforce. In the fall of 1941, shortly before their 18th Birthday, they joined the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and began studies under the War Emergency Training Plan (WETP) to enrich their education in Science, Mathematics and English at Central Technical School (CTS) in Toronto. Soon after joining the RCAF, the Bradford twins were separated – James was sent to Central Canada and Robert to Western Canada for training.



Both twins wanted to be pilots and fortunately they both survived the "washout rate". Robert received his pilot's wings and commission on Remembrance Day 1943, at Vulcan, Alberta, and James got his pilot's wings and commission at Centralia, Ontario shortly thereafter. James was posted to RCAF No.2 Training Command in Rivers, Manitoba then to RCAF No. 4 Training Command at RCAF Fort MacLeod, Alberta. His last posting was to RCAF Claresholm, Alberta, in the same training Command. James tried very hard to get an Overseas Posting where he felt he could make a better contribution to the War Effort – but the RCAF had other ideas and felt that his skills would be much more useful in the Training Commands of the British Commonwealth Air Training plan (BCATP). James even tried to join the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN), Air Arm (much like Britain's Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm). The RCN readily accepted James, but the RCAF refused to let him go. James settled into his role with the RCAF and served with his usual enthusiasm and devotion to duty. Robert meantime was posted overseas where he was attached to the Royal Air Force (RAF) and flew at RAF Babbdown Farm in Gloucester, (RAF) Cark in Lancashire and finally at RAF Jurby on the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea. Strangely, most of the flying that Robert did was very similar to James's work, the flying of Navigators bomb aimers and Wireless Operators on training missions, but in Robert's case, with obsolete bombers.

Following the defeat of Germany, (May 7, 1945, V.E. Day) both James and Robert volunteered for services in the war with Japan. However, atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki quickly ended that plan.

James worked as a commercial artist for the Drug Trading Company in Toronto before joining the RCAF in 1941 and he re-joined that Company after receiving an honourable discharge from the RCAF in 1945. In September 1948, James and his fiancé, the late Marion Davison, were married by her father, a United Church Minister. They lived in the Fairbank area of Toronto for three years after their wedding (1948-1951) and in 1951 moved to Thistletown where they remained until 1994. In 1994 they retired to Shelburne, Ontario.

In 1967, James now age 43, decided to change his profession from commercial artist to a teacher of art. Thus began a long and difficult period of further enriching his education and credentials to achieve that goal. He first had to complete grades 12 and 13 which he accomplished by going to night school at Burnhamthorpe Collegiate in Etobicoke. He received an annual Teaching Certificate from the Faculty of Education in Toronto in 1968. In 1971, he enrolled in an arduous night school program at York University. His determination over a ten year period resulted in his being awarded his B.A in 1981.

James high school teaching career spanned a period of 18 years that started in September 1968 and finished in June 1988. For his first year, he was assigned to Downsview Collegiate (September 1968 – June 1969), and for the other 17 years, he was assigned to C.W. Jeffries Collegiate (September 1969 – June 1986). Both Schools are located in the former City of North York. James' students remember him with affection and with gratitude for his encouraging manner. He taught the joy of Art for 18 years and no doubt was grateful for his decision to become an art teacher at the age of 43.

Following a brief stay in Bethel Hospice in Inglewood (Caledon) Ontario, James Cecil Bradford passed away peacefully on April 9, 2016 at the age of 92. He was predeceased by his wife Marion and is survived by his daughter Janice (Bradford) Vernon and son Mark Bradford.

Editor's Note: Information for his tribute was provided by the families of James and Robert Bradford and it was assembled by Orlando Martini.

Mary Laverne Morris, B.A., Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist

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January 19, 1931 to February 21, 2016

Daughter of the late Alice Hooper and Wreford Hewson of Malton, sister of Albert Hewson, great-great-granddaughter of Joseph Sheard, beloved wife of Rev. Paul H. Morris, mother of Stephen Morris (Sandra) of Brantford, Anna Bailey (Bradley) of Barrie, Margaret Teixeira (Carlos) of Mississauga, Grace Elizabeth Pelot (deceased, James) of Barrie and Robert John Morris (deceased), grandmother of Ryan, David, Benjamin and Joshua Teixeira, Andrew and Sharon Morris, Alice and Samuel Pelot and Jennifer Bailey and great-grandmother of Ethan and Kaelyn Morris in Calgary.

Mary won top prizes at the Brampton Music Festivals and for 5 years, kept first place academically at Weston Collegiate. She graduated from Victoria University in 1952 and returned to studies at Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (University of Toronto) in 1967. She completed her Doctoral degree in Psychology in 1978.

Mary served at 3 youth clinics, taught several courses at OISE while developing her extensive private practice at home. She edited books and international journals and was authoring a valuable book on healing the hurts from early childhood sexual abuse which may yet be finished.

Mary excelled at homemaking in a succession of manses and finally our own home for 43 years in Etobicoke. She also enjoyed the cottages the family built on Horn Lane in the Almaguin Highlands. World travelling added a global viewpoint to this remarkable woman who coped with Parkinson's Disease. She will be greatly missed by all who were helped by her therapy and she will continue to have a helpful place by donating her body to McMaster University for medical research and teaching.

A service celebrating her life was held at Humbervale United Church on Saturday, March 5, 2016.

Larry Rogers*By John Solarski*

Early this year we were saddened to learn that one of our past principals at Weston Collegiate had passed away over the Christmas – New Year Holiday period. News of Larry Rogers passing came as a surprise to many of us who had seen him only a few months earlier. Since his retirement 20 years ago, Larry divided his time between his home in Toronto and his properties in Panama and Florida.

Mr. Rogers arrived at Weston assuming the position of principal in September of 1987, having been transferred from York Memorial Collegiate. This was Larry's second assignment at Weston where he began his career as an educator in the 1960's. He had served the school as a teacher, counselor and Head of the Guidance Department before moving into administration as a vice-principal at George Harvey Secondary School.

Larry came into education with a background in business so it came as no surprise that he addressed his administrative duties with a practical, no nonsense approach, always looking for the most efficient ways of getting things done. During his initial term of service at Weston, Larry converted the school time table from a full year format to the semester system. While undertaking studies for his Masters degree in Education, Larry investigated systems that provided an optimum learning experience for the students as well as a model that created the most effective instruction and methods of evaluation for the teachers. When Weston became a semester school in the early 1970's it was one of the first in the province of Ontario to do so.

In the early 1990's, following various events and circumstances, Weston's enrollment began to decline. It was Larry's vision and entrepreneurial sense that shaped the future of the school. He recognized that the school had to distinguish itself as being unique in its offerings. As a result, he went about bringing in a number of specialty programs addressing the needs of both adolescent students and adult learners.

Three distinct Adult Learning Programs were introduced: Dental Assisting; Business; and Travel & Tourism. All three programs had a practical component that saw the Dental program offering service to the community with an on-site Dental clinic; the Travel & Tourism program operating a Golliger's travel agency in the school; and the Business program was linked with the Co-operative Education Department which resulted in office placements throughout the city.

For the adolescent learners, Larry negotiated to bring the prestigious International Baccalaureate Program to Weston making it only the second public school in the GTA to offer the world renowned and globally recognized program.

Both of these initiatives broadened the intake area for the school, changing Weston from a local community school to one that attracted students from throughout the GTA.

Mr. Rogers was a supporter and a promoter of all aspects of the school community. He expected commitment and productivity from teachers and students alike that resulted in academic excellence as well as extra-curricular achievement. He was then the first to lead in the celebration of both. It is without a doubt that Larry's vision and direction shaped the face and secured the future of Weston Collegiate.

